

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 HA-05 /103 W

-----085097 120442Z /20

R 070730Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1012

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VICTORIA 0612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, SE

SUBJECT: REMAINING DETAINEES RELEASED; SEVERAL "ENCOURAGED"

TO EMIGRATE

REF: A) VICTORIA 595; B) VICTORIA 395; C) VICTORIA 376

1. ALL TWENTY SEYCHELLOIS ARRESTED AND DETAINED APRIL 29 FOR ALLEGED COUNTER-COUP PLOTTING (REFTEL C) HAVE NOW BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON. LAST ELEVEN DETAINEES WERE SET FREE JULY 5 AND SERVED WITH REMOVAL ORDER UNDER PROVISIONS OF PRESERVATION OF SECURITY ACT, 1978 (REFTEL B) WHICH, IN THIS CASE, IS TANTAMOUNT TO HOUSE ARREST. DETAINEES RELEASED JULY 5 HAVE 24-HOUR POLICE GUARD AND ARE UNDER POLICE ESCORT WHEN OUTSIDE MOVEMENTS ARE AUTHORIZED. THIS IS IN CONTRAST WITH MORE LENIENT CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON NINE DETAINEES RELEASED JULY 1, REQUIRING THESE FORMER DE-
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TAINEES ONLY TO REPORT BRIEFLY EACH DAY TO CENTRAL POLICE STATION (REFTEL A).

2. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY FORMER DETAINEE THAT "SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER" OF MORE PROMINENT DETAINEES HAVE BEEN TOLD BY GOS TO LEAVE SEYCHELLES "FOR A WHILE" AS SOON AS THEIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS CAN BE ARRANGED. PROMINENT AMONG THOSE

REPORTEDLY PLANNING TO DEPART IN NEXT FEW DAYS ARE FORMER M.P.'S ROBERT FRICHOT (SEEKING TO EMIGRATE TO AUSTRALIA), AND DAN PAYET (SEEKING TO GO TO U.K.). OWEN HOAREAU, PRIME MOVER BEHIND GOS-THWARTED EFFORT TO REVITALIZE DEPOSED PRESIDENT MANCHAM'S SDP POLITICAL PARTY, IS EXPECTED TO VISIT PARENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA TEMPORARILY. GOS HAS BEEN ACCOMODATING TO REQUESTS BY FORMER DETAINEES FOR ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING ARRANGEMENTS FOR EARLY DEPARTURE OF THOSE FORMER DETAINEES "ENCOURAGED" OR DESIROUS OF LEAVING COUNTRY.

3. COMMENT: IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT SOME OF THOSE WHO LEAVE WILL JOIN ANTI-GOVERNMENT GROUPS OF OVERSEAS SEYCHELLOIS WHICH HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED IN U.K. AND AUSTRALIA. ROBERT FRICHOT, IN PARTICULAR, IS LIKELY TO ATTEMPT TO PLAY LEADERSHIP ROLE AMONG 9,500 SEYCHELLOIS PRESENTLY RESIDING IN AUSTRALIA.

4. FOR CANBERRA AND PERTH. GOS IS WORRIED ABOUT ANTI-RENE ACTIVITIES AMONG AUSTRALIA-BASED SEYCHELLOIS COMMUNITY (THE LARGEST OUTSIDE OF SEYCHELLES) AND PRESIDENT AND MRS. RENE HAVE BOTH EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR SAFETY OF MRS. RENE'S TWO COLLEGE-AGED CHILDREN WHO ARE STUDYING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY PRESS ARTICLES OR OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA OR AMCONSUL PERTH. MATTSON

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